

European Tour for the
protection of the Amazon rainforest
OBJECTIVE ZERO DEFORESTATION



With the exceptional attendance of tribal leaders RAONI • TAPI • WATATAKALU • BEMORO

European Tour 2023



Ambitions

In 1989, the great tribal leader Raoni Metuktire went on his first global campaign to meet representatives from 17 countries and the Pope to alert the world to the destruction of the Amazon forest. AFV was created in its wake to fulfil his dream of demarcating a territory of rainforest larger than South Korea. Mission accomplished in 1993.

However, the forest and its indigenous communities are still in danger.

For AFV's 9th campaign from 11 May to 3 June 2023, the distinguished leaders Raoni and Tapi, Honorary Presidents of AFV, will once more tour the world, this time in company of Chief Bemoro Metuktire and Chief Watatakalu Yawalapiti.

They will tour six European countries to deliver their message and obtain new funds to strengthen the safeguarding actions implemented since the last tour in 2019, during which they had met French President Emmanuel Macron, Pope Francis, Prince Albert II of Monaco and the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, as well as the mayors of the cities of Paris, Lyon and Brussels.

This tour was a real success and allowed to relaunch the protection of the Xingu region, one of the largest areas of rainforest in the world.

Organizational and support committees are being established for each country visited in order to accompany the indigenous delegation and to structure all the events around the tour with the aim of maximizing :

- Participation of stakeholders
- Partnerships
- Media coverage
- Fundraising



A new beginning for the protection of the Amazon rainforest

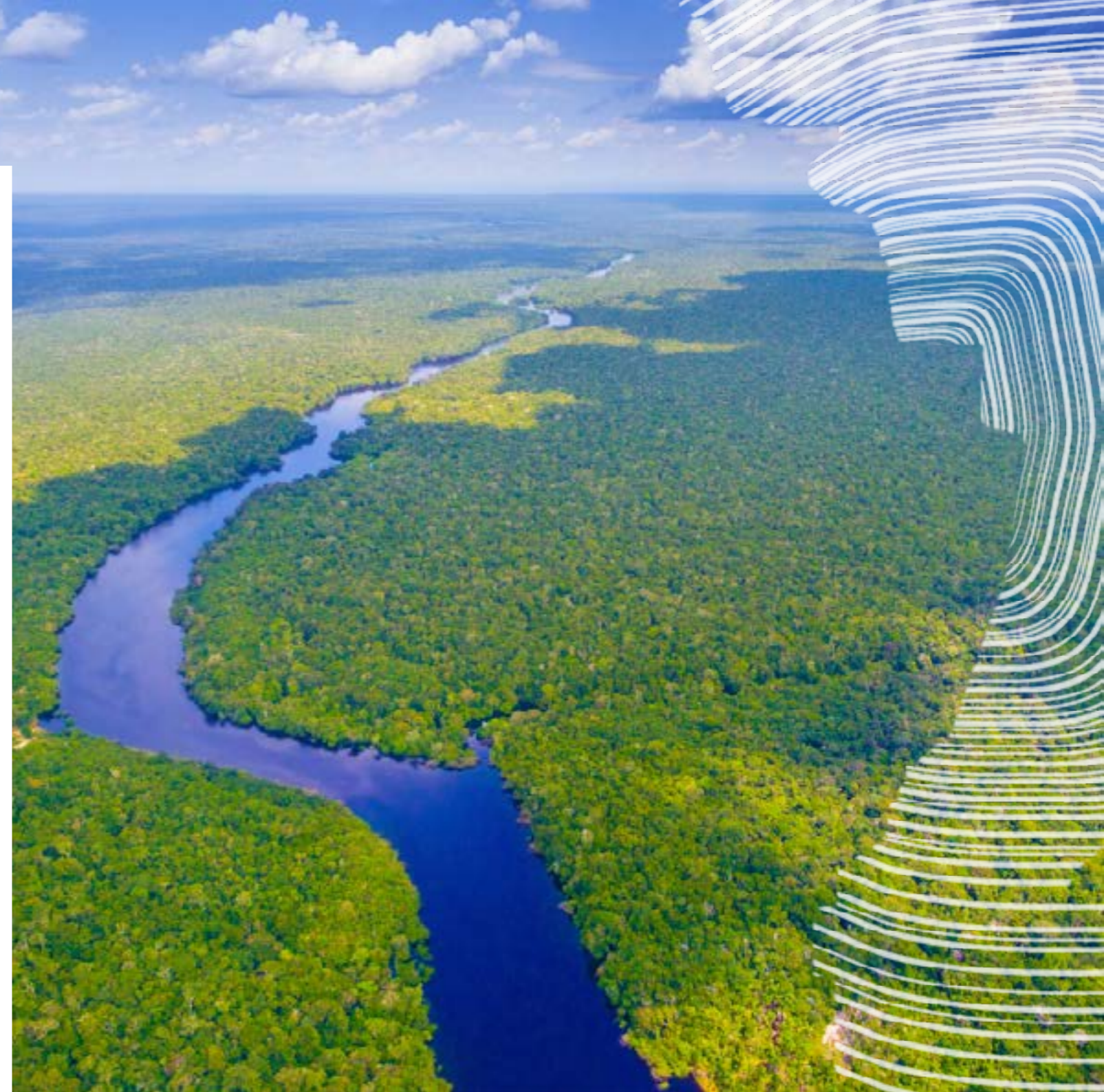


PRESENT CONTEXT

After 4 years that proved to be disastrous for the indigenous communities and the Amazon rainforest, this tour is taking place in a much more favorable environment for their safeguarding thanks to the commitments of the new Brazilian government.

Today we have the opportunity to participate in a new beginning filled with hope and optimism, with the purpose :

- 🏠 To raise awareness more broadly
- 🏠 To mobilize and involve governments and companies more strongly
- 🏠 To finance and implement more effectively sustainable solutions in the Amazon



Concrete actions for the protection of indigenous territories

CHALLENGES

The Amazon is one of the world's largest rainforest and home to unparalleled biodiversity. Its biosphere is essential to life on the planet and its preservation as one of the largest terrestrial carbon sinks more critical than ever to tackle climate change.

XINGU: A SAFE HAVEN TO BE SAFEGUARDED FOR THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The Xingu region is one of the largest protected rainforest territories in the world equivalent to a third of Germany. It is located in the geographical centre of Brazil. It includes the Kayapo territories represented by Chief Raoni and the Xingu Park (TIX) home to 16 indigenous peoples now federated and represented by Chief Tapi. Together they form with approximately 130,000 km² the second largest protected indigenous territory of Brazil.

AN AREA UNDER CONSTENT THREAT

The Xingu is still facing multiple threats such as forest fires, illegal logging, farming and mining. Many of the indigenous monitoring stations authorized under the Brazilian Constitution and created in the 1990s are no longer operational due to neglect and lack of funding..

URGENTS NEEDS

Some communities are in urgent need of specific support: health, schooling and apprenticeship, production and trading of sustainable forest products and artisanal goods.



Concrete actions implemented



Objectives to be reached in 2023 and beyond!

1. Strengthen the forest protection and its reforestation as well as develop agro-ecological activities for the benefit of the population.
2. Fund the installation of boundary markers of the Xingu reserves and equip existing indigenous surveillance posts. The required equipment ranges from vehicles, boats, photovoltaic panels, satellite phones, drones, computers, cameras with GPS localization to individual protective gears for the indigenous communities.
3. Assist the indigenous surveillance teams and the federal authorities (IBAMA) in improving the indigenous monitoring of the Xingu through logistical support and training. Fund and organize regular surveillance expeditions by the indigenous surveillance brigades and improve response time of federal law enforcement.
4. Establish fast and reliable satellite connections in all the main indigenous villages of the TIX and Kayapo territories. Foster reforestation programs in degraded areas so as to improve the carbon capture capabilities of the Xingu while protecting its biodiversity.
5. Expand the community health programme in partnership with FIOCRUZ and establish within the Aritana Institute a cultural heritage centre.

To implement these projects, AFV works closely with local indigenous organizations such as the Associação Yawalapiti Awapa, the Aritana Institute, the Xingu Institute for Ethno-Environmental Research (IPEAX), the women of the Associação dos indígenas do Xingu (ATIX) and the Brazilian Federal Agency for Environmental Protection (IBAMA).



A commitment that is already bearing fruit



Visible results and substantial successes have been achieved

AFV planned with the Xingu indigenous communities the establishment of the Xingu Aritana Institute which was approved by all 16 tribes of the TIX in November 2021. Operational since fall 2022, the Institute oversees the forest protection and the reforestation/agroecological program. Its purpose is also to be a cultural heritage centre as well as the repository of ancestral medicinal knowledge. It will also host vocational training opportunities for the indigenous communities.

Together with the Associação Kanindé, Conservation Drones and WWF Brazil, AFV has identified the appropriate equipment for the border and forest protection program.

Acquisitions have already been made for three critical indigenous monitoring stations : drones, rugged laptops, waterproof cameras with GPS and solar panels.

AFV also provided support through satellite monitoring (Global Forest Watch and Planet.com) and contacted organizations specialized in satellite imagery and technical surveillance (Satelligence, Forestconnection, Rainforest Foundation UK, Starlink) for long-term partnership possibilities. AFV furthermore established with sixteen Xingu indigenous communities a new working group to coordinate the indigenous surveillance and fire brigades and funded their initial training.

A new health program has been established in cooperation with FIOCRUZ, a partner of the Robert-Koch Institute (Germany), consisting in training of indigenous health workers and setting up a data system for real-time health monitoring.





Tangible results



Use of collected funds

The 2023 European Tour is intended to raise funds that will be redistributed equitably, as follows

-50% for the Kayapo peoples. At the request of the cacique Raoni, the funds collected will be primarily allocated for the demarcation of the Kapot Nhinoré territory and used to finance the NGO Metuktiré. The balance will be given to the Raoni Institute

-50% for the 16 peoples of the indigenous territory of Xingu through the Aritana Institute, ANMIGA and ATIX.

The projects to safeguard the Amazon rainforest and indigenous peoples are developed with the communities and subject to free, prior and informed consent consultations (FPIC). The actions are then essentially implemented by the local communities.

The use of donations is monitored by AFV through its local branch, which informs donors at regular intervals.

The association's accounting is carried out by an international accounting firm.



The Cacique Raoni



Honorary President of AFV

The Cacique Raoni was born around 1945 in the state of Para, at the heart of the Amazonian forest in Brazil. Raoni alone embodies all the mystery and power of the Kayapo people to which his tribe belongs.

For four decades, he has pursued a daily struggle to save the Amazon forest and has risked his life countless times for its protection.

In 1976, Jean-Pierre Dutilleux, a young Belgian filmmaker, directed the film «Raoni» which made him famous worldwide. The film was selected for the Cannes Festival in 1977 and for the Oscars in 1978.

Raoni later embarked in 1989 on a world tour with the singer Sting. He met many heads of state and famous people around the world: the French Presidents François Mitterrand as well as Jacques Chirac, King Juan Carlos of Spain, Prince Charles, His Holiness John Paul II and many others.

Twelve NGOs were then created in twelve countries in order to collect funds to help demarcate one of the greatest reserves in the Amazon located in the region of the Rio Xingu.

Mission accomplished in 1993 with a presidential decree signed by President Itamar Franco, which officialized the great reserve of the Xingu river of 103.000 km² contiguous with the National Park of Xingu (26,000 km²). With a combined surface of almost 130,000 km², they form one of the greatest indigenous territory in the world.

Today, Raoni and the indigenous communities remain the guardians of the largest forest in the world.



The Cacique Tapi



Honorary President of AFV

Great leader of the 16 tribes of the Upper Xingu

The Cacique Tapi Yawalapiti is today the great leader of the 16 tribes of the Upper Xingu and the President of the Aritana Institute named after his late father who passed away regrettably in 2021 due to Covid.

Tapi, 40 years old, is the spiritual heir of Raoni.

With a degree in social and environmental sciences from the University of Brasilia, he embodies the new vision of the peoples of the Xingu who wish to preserve their ancestral cultures and protect the indigenous territories under their care. Tapi has remained true to his traditions while working hand in hand with Brazilian institutions and AFV, his main partner.

Tapi was also noticed during the AFV campaign of 2019 for the clarity and sobriety of his public interventions and the private audiences with various heads of state. Tapi's speech in the Vatican in October 2019, in front of the assembly of hundreds of bishops from all around the world on the occasion of the Synod for the Amazon organized by Pope Francis, was particularly appreciated.

Tireless and determined, Tapi is without doubt one of the most prominent Brazilian figureheads in the preservation of the Amazon and its indigenous peoples.



BEMORO Metuktiré



He is Raoni's nephew and accompanies him on his important journeys.

He thus participated in AFV's campaigns of 2011 and 2019, translating Raoni's answers in Kayapo into Portuguese.

Bemoro has been president of the Kayapó indigenous health council for 4 years and the treasurer of the Raoni Institute. He has 7 children.



Watatakalu Yawalapiti



Born in Amakapuko Village - Yawalapiti, Upper Xingu - Xingu Indigenous Territory (TIX) - 42 years old

Inspirational Award 2021
Nominated for the Inspirational Award 2021

Coordinator of ATIX-Woman
Coordinator: Missions for the women of the indigenous territory of Xingu

Movement of the Women of the Indigenous Territory of Xingu - MMTIX
Member of the Movement of Women of the Indigenous Territory of Xingu

National Articulation of Indigenous Women Warriors - ANMIGA
Co-founder of ANMIGA- the National Movement of the Amazon warriors

Xingu Seed Group
Member of the Board of the Xingu Seed Group



Organizers



The Rainforest Organization (AFV) was founded in France in 1989 in the wake of the first worldwide tour of the Amazon tribal leader Raoni Metuktire with the singer Sting, which led to the demarcation in 1993 of one of the largest rainforest reserves in Brazil: the Kayapo territory.

Today, AFV is not only assisting the indigenous peoples of the Amazon to safeguard their ancestral lands and cultures, but continues also to tirelessly raise public awareness about the climate crisis and the destruction of the Amazon rainforest.

Thus, during the last campaign organized by AFV in 2019, Raoni Metuktire and Tapi Yawalapiti met again with world leaders such as President Emmanuel Macron, Pope Francois, Prince Albert II of Monaco and the Grand Duke of Luxembourg.

AFV implements projects through its offices in Paris and Rio de Janeiro.

Honorary Presidents: Raoni, Tapi, Jean-Pierre Dutilleul, Bernard Laine

President: Robert Dardanne

Vice-President: Nathalie Gaillard

Legal advisor: Maximilian Girod-Laine

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